JDW- a bit of encouragement. McKinley phoned yesterdat to say that a Ray story looks certain and the JFK prospects seem good to him. Says he'll be in touch or back in a week.

I had phoned JL and suggested some focus on this, lacking in our Saturday meeting. He had read that pretty much as I had.

McKinley said that Norman has this manner that makes him appears as he was not, not really interested. But he was impressed. We'll see, and if he impresses others.

I had showed them a letter from the judge that in plain English means we can't appeal for a year because there will be no transcript for that long. I had suggested that this gives them plenty of time for a definitive story proving without possibikity of refutation that Ray is innocent.And that the judge knew this when he ruled against him. Or how to keep an innocent man in jail to "solve" an unsolved major crime, the most costly in terms of money in our histroy. I think I'd best give him by mail an encapsulation of the novel formula I worked out that enabled us to put this proof into the record in a case that was not supposed to go into guilt or innocence. I may have done it in the heated Bud correspondence immediately after the hearing, but in that is also may have gotten lost. Incidently, the effect of that hot stuff seems to have been good in terms of the understanding it gave McKinleyof our problem with Bud. Particularly because the decision proves how right I was on the question of Constitutional rights.

Got enough wood cut yesterday to last most of the week, and I feel it! But as I trimmed out the finer branches on some in-the-way bull pines (also knows as Virginia pine and mountain pine, the gnarled kind around here) I noticed that through the snow we have daylilies, phlox, tulips and other plants coming up through the snow and there have been crocuses and the narcissi are six inches high. So, spring is near, always cause for good feeling. Best HW 3/17/75